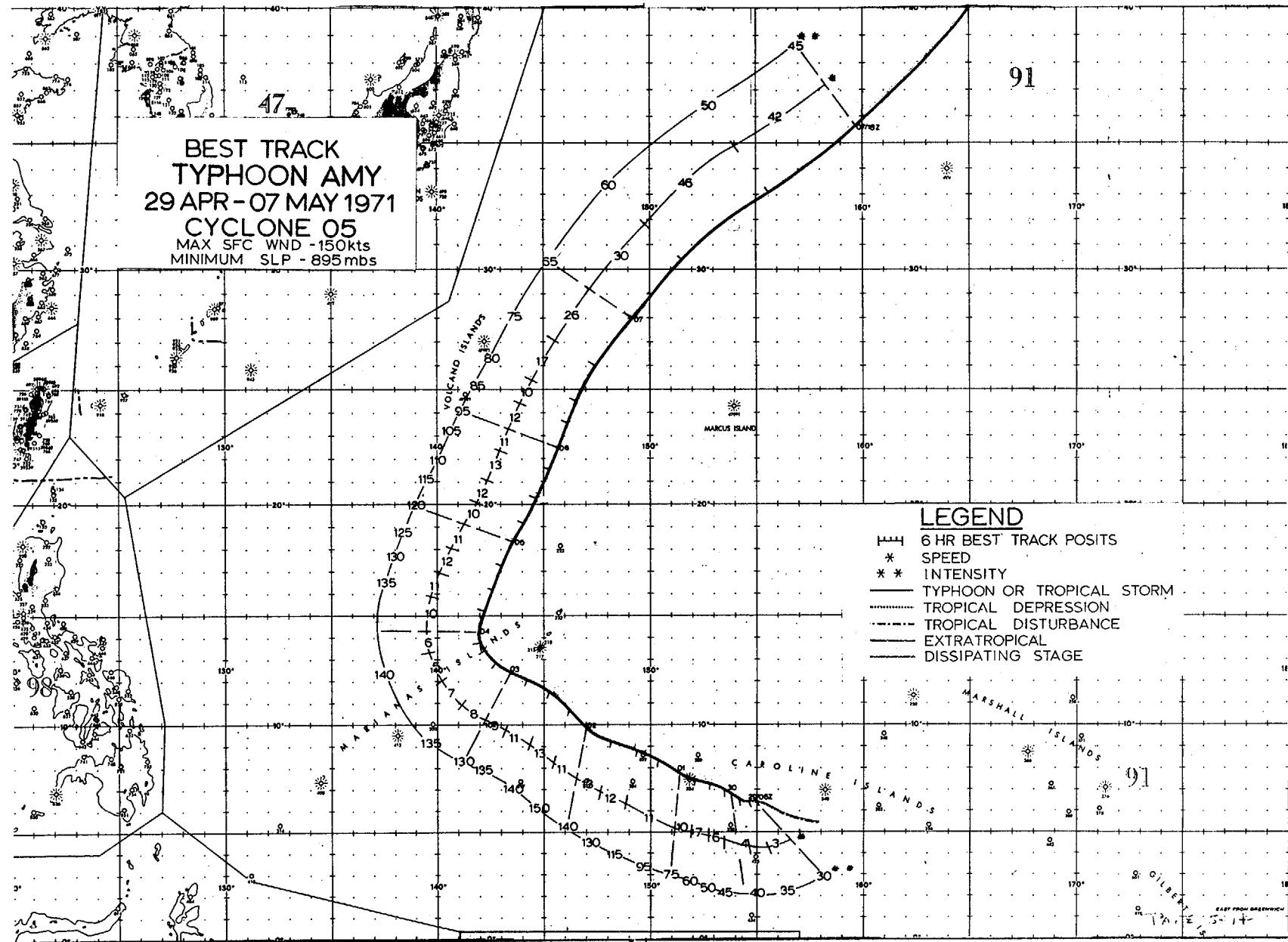


5-14



AMY

As Wanda was emerging from the central Philippines, synoptic reports and NOAA-1 satellite pictures began to show the embryo of Amy becoming evident on the 26th in the Truk-Ponape area of the central Carolines. The system remained quasi-stationary for three days and, during the evening of the 29th, attained tropical storm strength. The storm commenced to drift toward the Truk Islands while aircraft reconnaissance during late afternoon of the 30th detected evidence of an eye on their radar screens (Figure 5-5).

By daybreak of the 1st, the eye crossed Moen in the Truk Islands with the weather station reporting 65 kt with peak gusts to 98 kt and a minimum pressure of 974.8 mb. The storm continued to intensify as it crossed Namonuito Atoll on a west-northwest track completely destroying the weather station on the atoll (Figure 5-6).

To illustrate the gradient which existed at this time, the last report from Namonuito on the 1st at 0700 GMT indicated a sustained wind of 45 kt from the northeast and sea level pressure of 989.7 mb. A reconnaissance aircraft in the eye of Amy at that time, some 30 n mi southeast of the station, measured 958 mb and maximum winds of 115 kt. In other words, a 32 mb difference existed between the two points or approximately 1 mb per mile.

There was 80% damage in the Truk district including the Hall Islands and Namonuito Atoll as well as equal damage to all structures in the Truk Islands with over 2,250 homes demolished and thousands made homeless (Figures 5-7 and 5-8). A total of 4.5 million dollars damage was sustained in the private and public sectors. One death and several injuries were reported. An additional one million dollars was lost in damage to crops, small businesses, boats, equipment, etc. Hardest hit of the Truk district was Namonuito Atoll. Inspection of damage at Namonuito depicted a scene as if the atoll had been struck by fire. Little foliage was left and bark was stripped from the few remaining trees.

On request of the High Commissioner of the Trust Territories, the Truk district was declared a disaster area by President Nixon.

After a 1000 GMT aircraft fix of the storm over Namonuito Atoll on the 1st, a period of 15 hours elapsed without an aircraft penetration of the eye. On the next penetration fix at 0100 GMT on the 2nd, with Amy positioned

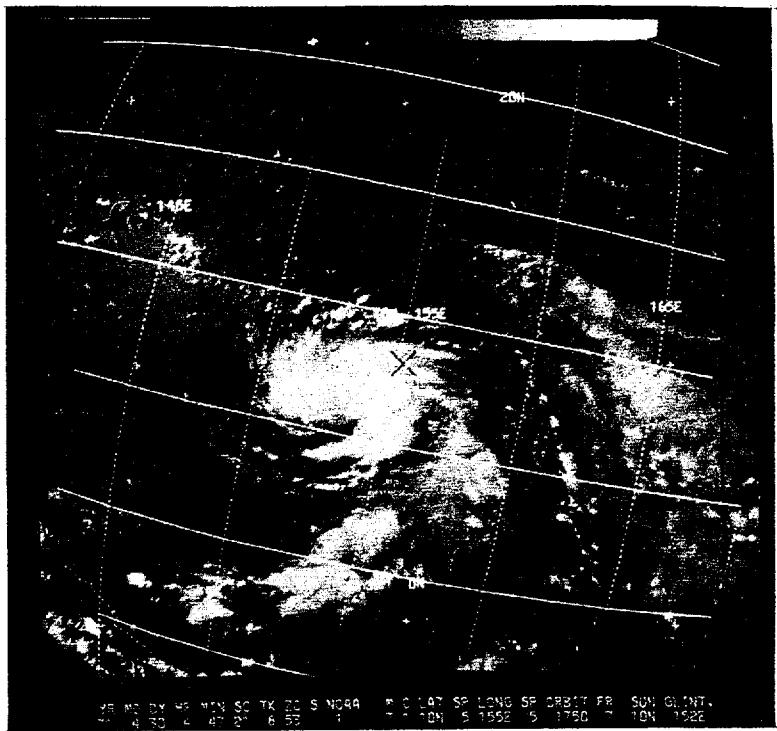


FIGURE 5-5. NOAA-1 PHOTO OF TROPICAL STORM AMY EAST OF TRUK ON 30 APRIL.

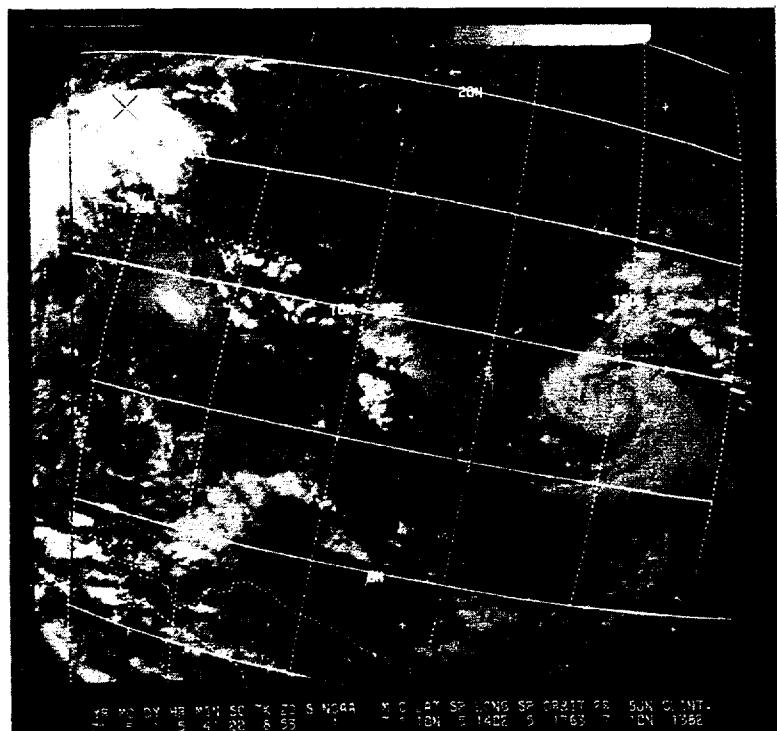


FIGURE 5-6. AMY, GAINING STRENGTH, AFTER PASSAGE OF THE TRUK ISLANDS AS SEEN BY NOAA-1 ON 1 MAY.

250 n mi southeast of Guam, a dropsonde reading indicated Amy had deepened explosively from 950 to 899 mb--a rate of 3.4 mb per hour (Figure 5-9).

During the afternoon Amy reached her peak with a minimum pressure of 895 mb and maximum sustained winds of 150 kt concentrated around a tight circular eye 10 n mi in diameter.

The eye of the typhoon came under surveillance of the radars at Mount Santa Rosa and Andersen AFB about this time. The center tracked south of Guam during the next 12 hours with closest point of approach at 84 n mi on a 208° radial from Apra Harbor.

Amy began to slow in response to the approach of a trough in the westerlies and the weakening of the subtropical ridge line. A slow drift to the northwest occurred about 120 n mi west of Guam on the 3rd. The typhoon then commenced to track northeast at 11 kt west of the Marianas Islands with maximum winds of 120 kt.

Highest winds reported on Guam were 51 kt with a gust to 68 kt (2112 GMT) at Fleet Weather Central (Elev. 600 ft), while Andersen AFB on the northern end of the island sustained winds of 36 kt (1623 GMT) with gusts to 60 kt (2358 GMT). A total rainfall of 15.26 inches was recorded at the National Weather Service Office during the passage of Amy. Minimum sea level pressure observed on the island was at Fleet Weather Central with 998.2 mb.

Damage on Guam amounted to over 900,000 dollars in public and private property damage. On Rota severe crop damage occurred, including destruction of a sea wall as well as damage to bulk storage tanks and feeder pipelines which were washed away at the oil storage yards. In the northern Marianas, minor damage was sustained mostly to the copra and banana trees. The weather station on Pagan reported a maximum wind of 28 kt with gusts to 47 kt.

Amy continued on a northeast course passing the northernmost island of the Marianas, Maug, on the evening of the 5th (Figure 5-10). At a forward speed in excess of 20 kt, she kept a northeast heading through the 6th weakening to minimal typhoon strength. By the 7th Amy decreased to tropical storm intensity and accelerated to greater than 40 kt in forward speed. After crossing the 35th parallel, the storm was overtaken by a cold front early on the 8th.

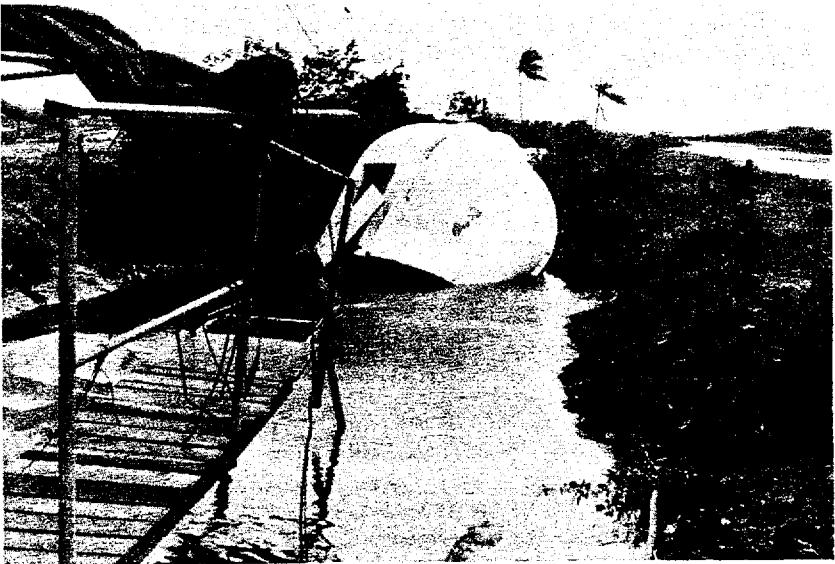


FIGURE 5-7. TRUK'S RAWINSONDE RADOME RESTS IN DRAINAGE DITCH AFTER PASSAGE OF AMY. (THE RADOME, WHICH HAD BEEN REMOVED FROM THE WEATHER STATION'S ROOF AND PLACED ON THE GROUND WHILE AWAITING SERVICING, WAS SEVERELY DAMAGED WHEN IT WAS BLOWN AGAINST A STONE WALL ENROUTE TO ITS FINAL RESTING PLACE IN A DRAINAGE DITCH.)--COURTESY PACIFIC REGION, NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE.

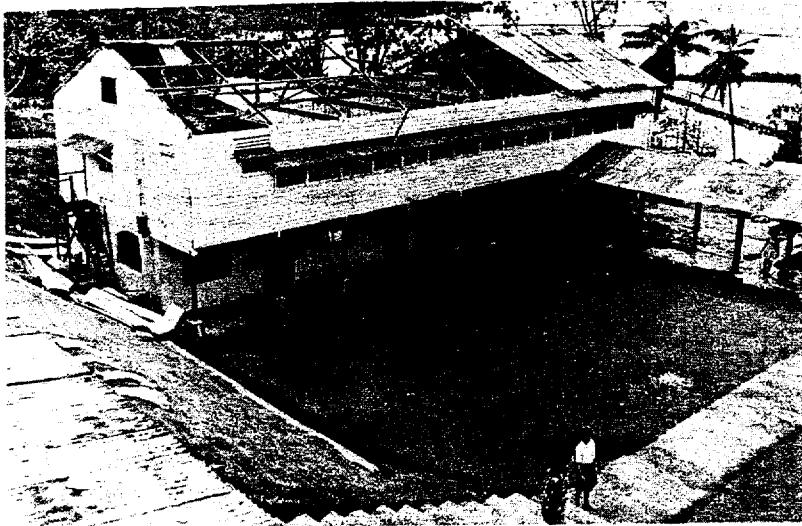


FIGURE 5-8. DAMAGE TO BUILDINGS ON MOEN ISLAND IN THE TRUK GROUP--COURTESY PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE, TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS.

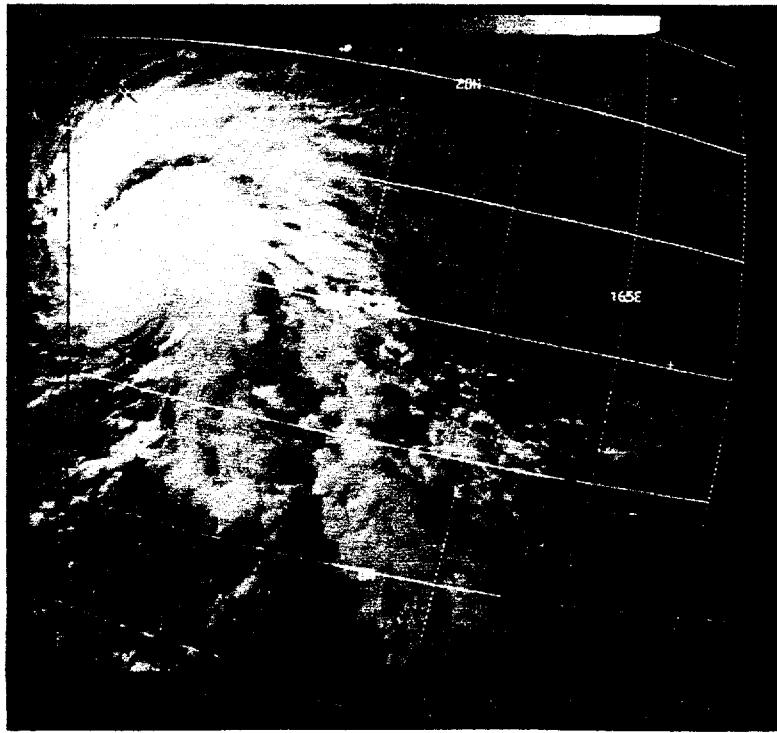


FIGURE 5-9. NOAA-1 VIEW OF SUPER TYPHOON AMY 250 N MI SOUTHEAST OF GUAM ON 2 MAY.

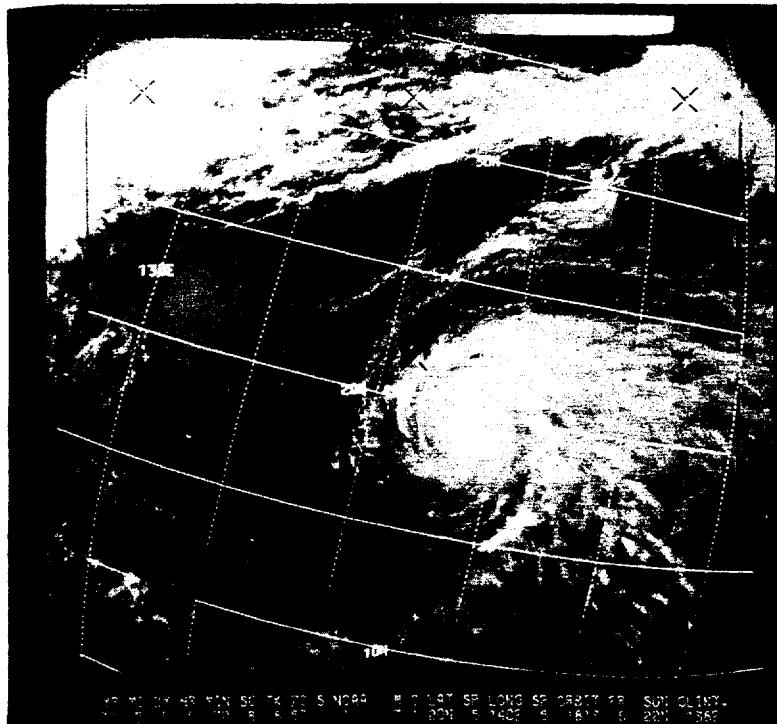


FIGURE 5-10. TYPHOON AMY AS PHOTOGRAPHED BY NOAA-1 ON 5 MAY.

TYPHOON AMY  
EYE FIXES FOR CYCLONE NO. 5  
29 APR - 07 MAY 71

FIX NO.	TIME	POSIT	UNIT-	FLT	08S	08S	MTN	FLT	THKN	POST OF RADAR		
			METHOD								REMARKS	
-ACCY	LVL	WND	WND	SLP	HGT	T1/T0	FORM	TATION	DIA	CLO		
1	280454Z	7.5N 153.0E	SATELIT---	STG B			25	1005	---	--/--	--	LRG CONV CLD MASS
2	290130Z	6.5N 155.2E	VQ-P---				4	CAT 2.0			--	INVESTIGATE FIX
3	290357Z	6.0N 155.0E	SATELIT---	STG X	DIA		400M					MORE INTENSE
4	291747Z	6.7N 154.4E	VQ-R- 6--									STG FBS ALL QUADS
5	292147Z	6.4N 153.7E	VQ-P-15--					48	996	---	27/25	CIRC
6	300400Z	6.7N 153.6E	54-P- 5--				38	995	3048	28/25	CIRC	17
												5 BRKS IN WC
												CLSD WC - STORM
												WELL DEFTED
7	300447Z	6.5N 153.5E	SATELIT---	STG C+								LTL WKR THAN YSTY
8	301000Z	7.1N 153.1E	54-P- 5--	700MB	48	----	988		3050	16/12	CIRC	20
9	301554Z	7.2N 152.1E	VQ-P- 5--	700MB	45	----	954		2661	14/10	ELIP	20
10	302104Z	7.4N 151.7E	VQ-P- 5--	700MB	58	60	982		2200	16/09	CIRC	30
11	010400Z	8.1N 150.7E	54-P-10--	700MB	100	100	961		2169	25/07	CIRC	20
												CLSD WC - STORM
												ORGANIZ RAPIDLY
12	010541Z	8.0N 150.0E	SATELIT---	STG X	DIA	2	CAT 3.0					SML CIRC EYE VIS
13	010700Z	8.4N 150.2E	54-P- 8--	700MB	135	130	958		2740	15/10	ELIP	20X18
14	011000Z	8.5N 149.7E	54-P- 5--	700MB	115	----	950		2661	20/15	ELIP	N-S
15	011502Z	9.2N 148.7E	VQ-R-10--						2200	---	CIRC	10
16	020100Z	9.9N 146.9E	54-P- 2--	700MB	135	130	894		2169	25/07	CIRC	10
17	020400Z	10.3N 146.5E	54-P- 2--	700MB	----	140	896		2169	29/09	CIRC	8
18	020445Z	10.0N 146.5E	SATELIT---	STG X	DIA	4	CAT 4.0					SML CIRC EYE VIS
19	020600Z	10.7N 146.3E	54-P- 2--	700MB	----	140	895		2170	29/09	CIRC	8
20	020840Z	11.2N 145.9E	LND RDR---									CLSD WC-TOPS 35K
21	020915Z	11.3N 145.8E	LND RDR---									
22	020945Z	11.4N 145.7E	LND RDR---									
23	021015Z	11.5N 145.7E	LND RDR---									
24	021045Z	11.6N 145.7E	LND RDR---									
25	021112Z	11.7N 145.5E	LND RDR---									
26	021145Z	11.8N 145.4E	LND RDR---									
27	021209Z	11.5N 145.3E	54-P- 1--	700MB	125	----	900		2190	29/11	CIRC	10
28	021215Z	11.9N 145.3E	LND RDR---									CLSD WC-CONT LTNG
29	021245Z	11.7N 145.3E	LND RDR---									MT SANTA ROSA RDR
30	021325Z	11.7N 145.2E	LND RDR---									13.5N 144.9E
31	021402Z	11.8N 145.0E	LND RDR---									MT SANTA ROSA RDR
32	021432Z	11.8N 145.0E	LND RDR---									13.5N 144.9E
33	021501Z	11.9N 144.9E	LND RDR---									MT SANTA ROSA RDR
34	021537Z	11.9N 144.8E	LND RDR---									13.5N 144.9E
35	021600Z	11.9N 144.7E	54-P- 1--	700MB	120	----	910		2292	21/09	ELIP	NE-SW
												12X10
												ROTATING RAPIDLY
36	021605Z	12.0N 144.4E	LND RDR---									MT SANTA ROSA RDR
37	021631Z	12.0N 144.6E	LND RDR---									13.5N 144.9E
38	021704Z	12.0N 144.5E	LND RDR---									MT SANTA ROSA RDR
39	021803Z	12.0N 144.4E	LND RDR---									13.5N 144.9E
40	021815Z	12.0N 144.3E	54-P- 1--	700MB	125	----	----		2387	22/09	CIRC	8
41	021900Z	12.0N 144.3E	LND RDR---									2 CLSD WC
42	022000Z	12.1N 144.2E	LND RDR---									MT SANTA ROSA RDR
43	022100Z	12.2N 144.2E	LND RDR---									13.5N 144.9E
44	022150Z	12.2N 144.0E	LND RDR---									MT SANTA ROSA RDR
45	022231Z	12.3N 143.9E	LND RDR---									13.5N 144.9E
46	022255Z	12.3N 143.8E	54-H- 2--	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	CIRC	20
47	022330Z	12.3N 143.7E	LND RDR---									MT SANTA ROSA RDR



